

Army in 1967. He served as a Combat Infantry Soldier in Vietnam and as a Training Instructor at various worldwide locations between 1967 and 1977. He continued his honorable service to the Army in various capacities until his retirement from active duty in 1987.

Following his retirement from active duty Jim worked for Northwestern Mutual Life and Metropolitan Life Insurance in Bismarck, ND, and then served as the Commander and Club Manager of the American Legion Lloyd Spetz Post No. 1 until 1996.

In 1996, Jim took on a new opportunity to serve our Nation and his fellow veterans by accepting his current position as the Cass County Veterans Service Officer. In his role as Cass County's Service Officer, Jim has gained a reputation for tenacious advocacy on behalf of veterans. He is known for his abilities to work closely with veterans to determine any possible sources of assistance they may have earned from their honorable service in the Armed Forces. Jim and I have worked together to assist a number of veterans over the years, and I can personally attest to his strong advocacy on behalf of those veterans that need a helping hand. The veterans of my state have a true friend in Jim.

Jim Brent has spent the majority of his life serving others, including his country, family, friends, and most of all, veterans. He goes above and beyond the call of duty. Jim is a great person, wonderful friend, a true patriot. I am honored to know him.●

#### COMMENDING JUDGE ANNE E. THOMPSON

● Mr. CORIZINE. Mr. President, I would like to recognize Judge Anne E. Thompson for her most recent accolade, the New Jersey State Bar Foundation's Medal of Honor. This honor is well deserved, presented for Judge Thompson's long-standing dedication to New Jersey's legal system and her remarkable contributions to improve the justice system. Furthermore, I wish to convey my deepest appreciation for her many years of outstanding service as a Federal District Court Judge in New Jersey. She is a distinguished jurist who embodies the best of the New Jersey legal community. We are truly fortunate to have had someone like Judge Thompson on the federal bench for the past 25 years.

Judge Thompson has distinguished herself throughout her career as an outstanding lawyer and judge. In 1975 she was appointed by Governor Brendan T. Byrne to the position of Prosecutor of Mercer County and in 1979 she was appointed by President Jimmy Carter as a United States District Court Judge for the District of New Jersey. Judge Thompson served as Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey. Judge Thompson formerly served as Vice-Chairwoman of the Mercer County Comprehensive Criminal Jus-

tice Planning Board and was appointed by the New Jersey Supreme Court to the Statewide Committee on Character and the Criminal Practice Committee. She also excelled as Chairperson of the New Jersey Supreme Court's Committee on Municipal Courts and the Juvenile Justice/Juvenile Standards Committee of the National District Attorneys Association. Judge Thompson presently serves as a member of the Criminal Law Drafting Committee for the National Conference of Bar Examiners and is a member of the committee responsible for oversight of the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts in Washington, D.C.

Even more significant than her many achievements is the exceptional degree of integrity and character that Judge Thompson has displayed as a Federal judge. She is known for her wonderful courtroom demeanor and her willingness to approach each and every case with the utmost thoughtfulness and care. Indeed, her many accomplishments demonstrate the depth of her abilities as well as her understanding that all litigants must be treated fairly and with dignity and respect.

On behalf of the people of New Jersey, I would like to again express my congratulations to Judge Thompson for receiving the New Jersey State Bar Foundation's Medal of Honor. I offer my sincere gratitude for her many years of distinguished service as a Federal judge in New Jersey.●

#### COMMENDING JUDGE JOSEPH E. IRENAS

● Mr. CORIZINE. Mr. President, I would like to recognize Judge Joseph E. Irenas as a 2005 recipient of the Justice William J. Brennan, Jr. Award. This award, which is given each year by the Association of the Federal Bar of the State of New Jersey, honors those whose actions have advanced the principles of free expression. I wish to convey my congratulations to Judge Irenas and my deepest appreciation for his many years of outstanding service as a Federal District Court Judge in New Jersey. He is a distinguished jurist who embodies the best of the New Jersey legal community.

Judge Irenas has distinguished himself as an outstanding judge and lawyer during his career. He is presently a member of the American Bar Association, American Law Institute, New Jersey Bar Association and Camden County Bar Association. He is also a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (London) and a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation. From 1985 to 2002, Judge Irenas was an Adjunct Professor of Law at Rutgers University School of Law—Camden, NJ. He taught numerous courses, including Commercial Paper, Secured Transactions, Professional Responsibility, First Amendment, High Technology and The First Amendment, and Products Liability.

But even more important than his many achievements is the depth of

character that Judge Irenas has displayed while on the bench. He has approached every case with thoughtfulness and care. Indeed, his many accolades reflect the strength of his abilities and his deep understanding that every case, even the smallest, matters greatly to all those who appear before him.

And so on behalf of the people of New Jersey, I would like to again express my congratulations to Judge Irenas for receiving the Brennan award and my sincere gratitude for his many years of distinguished service on the Federal bench in New Jersey.●

#### CONGRATULATING ELIZABETH KELLY AND SADIE HARTELL

● Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise to congratulate Elizabeth Kelly and Sadie Hartell, of Willington, CT. Both Elizabeth and Sadie will be presenting projects this week in Washington in celebration of National History Day this Wednesday, June 15.

Elizabeth and Sadie, both of whom attend Hall Memorial School, were selected as 2 of 19 students who will be presenting their projects this week. These students are part of a larger group of 2,300 finalists, who were selected from more than half a million participants in National History Day activities across our Nation.

National History Day is an initiative to promote the learning of history by American students in junior high and high schools. It encourages students not only to read their textbooks but to visit libraries, museums, and archives, and to create exhibits and participate in performances based on historical themes. This year marks the 25th anniversary of the National History Day initiative.

The students who competed in the National History Day competition have spent months doing in-depth research on topics they have selected, and preparing their presentations.

Elizabeth Kelly's project is titled, "The Second American Revolution: Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Her Fight." As part of her research, Elizabeth interviewed Colin Jenkins, a relative of Stanton's, who gave her original letters by Stanton that Elizabeth incorporated into a 10-minute dramatic performance, which she will be presenting at the National Museum of American History.

Sadie Hartell's project is titled, "The Beatles Communicating to Their Generation."

She will be presenting an exhibit and showing a short movie. Sadie did her research at both the University of Connecticut Music Library, as well as at Hall Memorial's school library. Her project, which she will be presenting at the Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian American Art Museum, focuses on how the Beatles used their music to express sentiments about the Vietnam War.